

**LAKEVIEW CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
October 21, 2025**

- I. Call to Order – 6:58 PM**
- II. Responding to the roll call** were Bill Svehla, Lindley Reubin, Wade Robson, Ralph Edge and Carl Hill. ***Cncl. Fiske was sworn in during this City Council meeting of October 21, 2025.
- III. APPROVAL –**
September 2025 Minutes
A. Cncl. Svehla moved to accept the minutes.
B. Cncl. Robson 2nd the motion.
C. There being no discussion, approval was so ordered without objections.
- September 2025 Financials*
A. Cncl. Reubin moved to accept the financials.
B. Cncl. Edge 2nd the motion.
C. There being no discussion, approval was so ordered without objections.
- IV. Police Report: September 2025**
A. Mayor Behling stated that the September 2025 Police Report was being presented and asked if there were any questions concerning the report. There being no questions, the report is on file for public review.
- V. Code Enforcement/Building Official Report**
A. Mayor Behling stated that the report September 8, 2025 thru October 7, 2025 was being presented and asked if there were any questions concerning the report.
B. Report is on file for public review.
- VI. OLD BUSINESS:**
A. Council-Ward 2, Pos 2 Vacancy
1. Mayor Behling referenced Ordinance 10-01 Concerning the Officials of the City of Lakeview in Baxter County Arkansas. Mayor Behling indicated that there is a vacancy of the City Council due to former Cncl. Janet Castillo resigning her position as City Councilmen for Ward 2 Position 2.
2. Mayor Behling requested a nomination for the vacant Ward 2 Position 2 City Councilmen position.
3. Cncl. Svehla moved to nominate Charles Fiske for Ward 2 Position 2 City Councilmen.
4. Cncl. Edge 2nd the nomination.
5. Mayor Behling asked for any other nominations three times with none being brought forward.
6. Mayor Behling declared that nominations were closed and requested a motion for a unanimous ballot for the appointment of Charles Fiske.

7. Cncl. Reubin moved to accept the appointment of Charles Fiske for the Ward 2 Position 2 City Councilmen position for the unexpired term of the seat.
8. Cncl. Hill 2nd the motion.
9. Motion carried with 5 Yeas and 0 Nays.
10. Mayor Behling proceeded to swear in Charles Fiske for City Councilmen for Ward 2 Position. Cncl. Fiske then took his seat at the city council dais.

B. Swearing in of New Police Chief-Mark Morton

1. Mayor Behling swore in the new Police Chief of the City of Lakeview, Mark Morton. Former Police Chief, David Hotchkiss, surrendered his shield to Chief Morton.

C. Presentation to Chief Hotchkiss

1. Retired Chief Jim Kuchenbecker commended Chief Hotchkiss on his dedicated service to the City of Lakeview protecting and serving the residents of our community. Chief Hotchkiss served as the President of the Arkansas Association of Chiefs of Police for the 2023-2024 term. Mr. Kuchenbecker thanked him for his service and presented him his retired credentials and ID card. Mr. Kuchenbecker read aloud the poem, "The Watch" and presented a framed gift of this poem to Chief Hotchkiss.

D. State Street Aid Program

1. Mayor Behling indicated that he spoke with Brit Burns with AR DOT regarding the repaving of the streets. Mr. Burns indicated that he believes that the road crew will be in our area the first week of November to complete the job.

E. Dogwood Lane-Sinkhole

1. Mayor Behling stated that he spoke with Billy Wehmeyer of Consolidated Land Services, Inc. in regards to status of the sinkhole. Mr. Wehmeyer stated that he was hoping that there would be more rain activity so that they could see if there would be more underground activity in the sinkhole. Unfortunately, the weather did not cooperate. Mr. Wehmeyer indicated that they should have some written recommendations in a report to the City of Lakeview on the Dogwood Lane Sinkhole by the end of the year.

F. Baxter County Sirens

1. Mayor Behling indicated that he spoke with OEM Director, David Stultz. This issue has been tabled by Baxter County. Mr. Stultz indicated that the county is thinking about switching to a new public safety alert notification service, Red Code, once the contract with Nixle has expired. Mayor Behling stated that he is going to take the siren project off the agenda until further notice from Baxter County.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Resolution 25-03 – Adopt Policy Regarding Use of AI
 - 1. Mayor Behling stated that an AI policy needed to be implemented by the City of Lakeview in compliance with Act 848 of 2025.
 - 2. Cncl. Reubin made a motion to adopt policy regarding use of AI.
 - 3. Cncl. Svehla 2nd the motion.
 - 4. Motion carried with 6 Yeas and 0 Nays.
- B. Purchase of New Police Squad
 - 1. Mayor Behling stated that Chief Morton has researched purchasing a new 2026 Chevy Tahoe for 2025 prices. The City of Lakeview will lock in the price with the dealership in 2025 and purchase the new squad in 2026. Chief Morton stated that if we wait until purchasing a new squad in 2026 the price could go up by 7%. The new squad will cost approximately \$53,000.00 for the vehicle. With the police equipment package added it would raise the price to approximately \$80,000.00 for the new squad. The City of Lakeview will reach out to the City of Luxora to see if they are interested in purchasing our oldest squad car. Cncl. Robson inquired how much the old squad will be let go for. In discussions, the figure of \$15,000.00-\$20,000.00 was mentioned but a firm price has not been set.
 - 2. Cncl. Hill made a motion to purchase a new squad car.
 - 3. Cncl. Edge 2nd the motion.
 - 4. Motion carried with 6 Yeas and 0 Nays.
- C. Setting Date for City Council Budget Meeting
 - 1. Mayor Behling suggested two dates for the budget meeting with November 10th or 11th. The budget meeting was scheduled for Tuesday, November 11, 2025 at 9 AM at city hall.
- D. Mayor Behling reminded everyone that Dave Hotchkiss' retirement party will be held on October 28, 2025 from 6 PM-8 PM at city hall.

VIII. ITEMS FROM THE FLOOR:

N/A

IX. ADJOURN:

- A. Cncl. Svehla made a motion to adjourn.
- B. Cncl. Hill 2nd the motion.
- C. Meeting adjourned at 7:28 pm.